

Sydenham Street and Chalmers

The United Church of Canada



7:30 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service



The Rev. Barry King INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER
Email: barry.king@chalmers-sydenhamstreet.com
Minister at Sydenham Street: 613-542-9616 ext. 203
Hours: SSUC Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30am - 1:30pm
Minister at Chalmers: 613-546-3263 ext. 226
Hours: CUC Mondays & Tuesdays 9:30am - 1:30pm
Church Office: 613-546-3263 ext.221
Hours: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Mon. – Thurs.

For millennia indigenous people have inhabited this land. We acknowledge with gratitude that we gather today on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples.

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

The Shepherds at the Manger – Franz Liszt

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

INTROIT

Hope is a Star

VU 7 (complete)

stand **CAROL VU 60** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

One As we find ourselves wrapped in the season of wonder and light, the astonishment that is life ignites our spirits, and we feel, if merely for a moment, that we are as we were meant to be. May we hold fast to this sliver of mystery, this truth upon which we set the whole of who we are.

All **May we call ourselves back to it time and again, until we are filled with the wonder that is our life– its hope, its peace, its joy, its love. Infused, then, with all that we are, may our energies be given to the transformation of this world—from despair into hope; from darkness into light; from fear into love. May we be bold. May we be daring. May we be love.**

The Christ Candle is lit

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

All **Holy One, born anew each Christmas Eve, be born anew in us this night. This is the sacred moment we have waited for. These are the open hearts we have prepared. Come Holy Child and transform our living. Come, Holy Light, and kindle our spirits. Come Holy Love and fill us. This is what we have been waiting for. Come. Amen.**

stand **CAROL VU 74** *What Child Is This?*

A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

PRAYER POEM

Miekle Turner

From *The Green Heart of the Snowdrop* – Kate McIlhagga

All We open now to Sacred Mystery, to the Holy One, infinitely
greater than words can express, whose love for us
and all creation exceeds our capacity to imagine. Amen

The Nativity According to Luke - Luke 2: 1-12 Jeremy Dent

One Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Before the Marvel of This Night - Carl Schalk

REFLECTION

"LIGHT A CANDLE!"

Rev. Barry King

stand CAROL VU 48 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

OFFERTORY

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime - Paul Manz

COMMUNION AT THE MANGER

WELCOMING TO THE TABLE

One At this table we give thanks for justice, love, peace and freedom.

All At this table we give thanks for friends and strangers.

One At this table we welcome old and young. All are invited.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

One God is with us

All God is within us!

One Open your hearts

All Our hearts open to the mystery of this night.

One Let the heavens rejoice!

O Holy one, we join with the creatures of the Earth,
giving thanks that Earth is your body and from Her womb, through
your beloved servant, Mary,
one was born who showed us the path of humility.

The whole universe:

stars and mountains, lamas and lions,

flowers and forests, the angels and the human ones,

all join in a canticle of the cosmos celebrating this enfleshin miracle
- your incarnation in Christ and through this evolving miracle of life.

All **Holy, Holy, Holy God,
Earth is full of your glory!
In this sacred Bethlehem birth
We are reminded that we are called
To give birth to the Christ in our age.**

One In Jesus, your intention to carry all creation into wholeness
pulls us along.
We come to know your love as a holy alluring to be,
for this planet, the presence of love.

The Word made flesh gathered with his friends for a final meal,
a last reminder that he was the very heart of God,
symbolized in bread and wine,
broken and poured out so that we might find our way back
to your heart.

All **You, O Holy One, are blessed.
You, O Holy One, are good.
You, O Holy One, are gracious.
You, O Holy One, are always blessing,
always birthing, always becoming.
All praise and honor and glory are yours. Amen.**

One So, with all the saints in heaven and on earth,
We join our hearts in prayer for your church and our world.
We pray for the church of Jesus Christ.
We pray for the healing of creation and the healing of nations.
We pray for those who are in sorrow or in pain. (silence)
We pray for all who live with violence or injustice. *silence*

Gather the cries of our hearts for your world,
Bringing hope and faith and love into being.
Send, O God, your Holy Spirit,
Upon us and what we do here
That we and these gifts, touched by your Spirit,
May be signs of life and love to one another, and to the world.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD / POURING OF THE CUP

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*Come forward down the centre aisle to the serving stations.
Return to your seat by the side aisles. Communion is received by bread, as well as gluten free wafers. Please return to your seat by the side aisles
To receive Communion in your pew, please indicate this when the usher arrives at your row.*

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Draw near – Jonathan Willcocks

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All **We give you thanks, Holy One**
that you have come to us through Jesus Christ,
both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem,
and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit.
Let us renew our sense of belonging to this fellowship
as we seek to bring the words and ways
of Jesus into relevant connection with life.

ILLUMINE

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

seated **CAROL VU 67** *Silent Night, Holy Night*
(you are invited to sing this carol in the language of your choice)

POSTLUDE

Still, Still, Still – Paul Manz

Talents Shared

Our thanks to:

Greeters Mickle Turner, Jack Soule

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DEC. 30 AT SYDENHAM ST

- **10:30 am:** Carol Service of Worship

EPIPHANY SUNDAY JAN. 6, 2019

- **10:30 am:** at Chalmers United Church
- **7 pm:** at Chalmers United Church


COMMUNITY PASTORAL CARING

- **Emergency Pastoral Care concerns from Dec. 25 to Jan. 2:**
Sydenham St United Church please contact Marylil Megginson 613-544-9420, marylil@kos.net and for
Chalmers United Church please contact Rev. Dr. Wayne Hilliker 613-546-4991 or whilliker@cogeco.ca
- **To place Flowers in the Sanctuary for the Worship Services in January:** please contact Isabel McLeod 613-546-2809.

YEAR END THANK OFFERINGS

- **Donations to Chalmers United Church** can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through *Canada Helps* on our website or by *Canada Post*. **2018 donations may be put through the church house mail slot before January 2. Thank you.**



Kindly leave your  in the basket at the door

**A Blessed Christmas to You from the Chalmers
and Sydenham Street Community.**

STAFF

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Justin Sowik, Lisa Leavitt SSUC BUILDING STAFF

Worshipping Sundays Together
January: at Chalmers
December & February: at Sydenham Street

*from the Chalmers and Sydenham Street
Communities of Faith*



Chalmers United Church

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LiveOnline at <chalmersunitedchurch.com>

Sundays in January 10:30am

<[Facebook.com/chalmersunited](https://www.facebook.com/chalmersunited)>

Church House Office is closed. Reopens Wed. Jan. 2, 2019



Sydenham Street United Church

82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4

p 613-542-9616 **f** 613-542-8784

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Sundays in February 10:30am

[Facebook.com/chalmersunited](https://www.facebook.com/chalmersunited)

Church House Office is closed. Reopens Wed. Jan. 2, 2019

